

Lesson 1

Need:

Define the term “genocide”. Have students look the word up in the dictionary. Explore the uses for the term: What separates genocide from mass murder?

How many deaths make genocide?

Who declares a genocide?

Does murder have to occur for a genocide to occur?

Explore historical and previously studied acts that might be termed genocide by the definition reach in class. This can be brought back out later as a starter for the eight stages comparison.

Option:

Use America in the Age of Genocide, chapter 2 and 3 as outside readings to understand the history surrounding the creation of the term “genocide.” Discuss different forms of genocide, different motivating factors, including: politicide (genocide committed for political goals.)